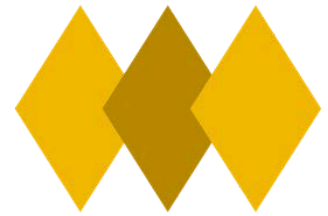


Higham Lane North Academy

NEWSLETTER



Friday 5th June 2026

It has been wonderful to welcome all students back to school this week for our final half-term of the year. We have had a very focused and purposeful week as students have re-settled themselves into routines for learning.

A summer of reading!

We are excited to have launched our summer of reading with students this week! Reading has endless benefits for our young people – please take a moment to watch this short clip that explains why reading matters so much for happiness and success.



[Boost Your Focus in 5 Minutes with Brain.fm](#)
[Harness the Power of Neural Phase Locking](#)

Please encourage and support your child to read as much as they can, whatever their starting point – all students have been given their 'summer of reading' booklet to see if they can travel the world through books and reading this summer! Reading really does matter to young people's success and so we want to give students as many opportunities as we can to read as much as they can whilst they are at HLNA. We are very much looking forward to celebrating all students' efforts with reading over the next few weeks and we have much gratitude to Miss Riley for continuing to promote reading so well with our students.

Mental Health

This week, the County's Mental Health Schools Team visited with a presentation to students about the importance of looking after their mental health. We talk regularly about different strategies to help students manage how they are feeling and the County's mental health schools team reinforced these strategies. This work will be followed up in July with a workshop for students focusing on further strategies around being calm and creating a sense of mindfulness for themselves.

Excellent learning in the classroom

As you are aware, we are strongly committed to providing an ambitious curriculum for students and our Quality Assurance procedures are regular and robust to ensure that students are receiving a high quality of education. On Tuesday our CEO and central team visited the school to observe lessons and speak to students.

Throughout the day, the strong positive classrooms were noted with student attitudes and behaviour being cited as exemplary. It was noted that students are provided with an appropriate level of challenge in all lessons and are supported well to achieve. We are grateful to all staff who work hard to ensure that our systems and routines are fully embedded so that students can thrive in their lessons. Within classrooms, it is wonderful to see every student applying themselves so well to their learning. Thank you to your support from home, reinforcing the importance of trying their best to achieve.

Being safe outside of school

As it is now officially summer and young people are out and about more, we are committed to continuing our messages of safety beyond the school gate. You will no doubt be aware of the very sad news of young people getting into serious difficulties in open water and tragically drowning.

On Tuesday, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue service will be visiting the school and speaking to students about the dangers of water safety and being in open water.

We will be reinforcing these messages during the summer term and know that you will also talk to your child about the importance of keeping themselves safe, particularly around open water.

Summer water safety

Accidents are mostly preventable with the correct knowledge and judgment and here are our tips to staying safe in the water during the summer:

To enjoy the water safely and make the right call...

- Enter slowly and carefully
Think carefully about your ability to splash or swim in cold outdoor water. 49% of those who lost their life were classified as swimmers*. Are you really a good swimmer?
- Stay within reach
Don't go too far and stay within a standing depth.
- Always be supervised
Over 70% of fatal accidents occur in the absence of professional supervision. Seek life guarded areas and always make sure some one is available to raise the alarm.

Summer is an amazing time to enjoy our beautiful water ways but we must be mindful that warmer weather is directly linked to an increase in fatal drowning incidents.

Rivers and Lakes/Lochs pose the greatest statistical risk as there are often hazards that the average person is equipped to handle and there is a lack of professional supervision.

In an emergency...

- Call 999
If you are at the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. Don't enter the water to rescue.
- If you're in trouble **FLOAT** and call for help
Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help. Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.

STOP AND THINK
STAY TOGETHER
CALL 999
FLOAT

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY UK

Whenever you are around water:

STOP AND THINK
Take time to assess your surroundings. Look for the dangers and always research local signs and advice.

STAY TOGETHER
When around water always go with friends or family. Swim at a lifeguarded venue.

In an emergency:

CALL 999
If you are at the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard. Don't enter the water to rescue.

FLOAT
Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help. Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.

Enjoy Water Safety

Learn basic lifesaving and CPR skills. Visit www.rls.org.uk

Road update and information

I have been in contact with Warwickshire County Council throughout the year to discuss the roads in the immediate vicinity. I can share that in order to alleviate the concerns regarding the narrow section of footway on Higham Lane, the Council are progressing the implementation of an advisory 20mph speed limit straddling Milby Drive (to encompass the junction, the narrow stretch of footway and the end of the cycle lane where it re-joins the carriageway). The Council's aim is to have this implemented before the start of the new academic year. Vistry Construction have also confirmed that the link road along Upper Farm Drive will be open for public use in August 2026, prior to the start of the new academic year.

Well done girls football!

Well done to our girls football team who took part in the Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire girls football competition on Thursday. The girls played brilliantly and came second overall in the competition! We are looking forward to further sports opportunities later this term, with boys and girls being able to represent the school for Rounders and Athletics.

We have also managed to find a potential opportunity for a boys football residential which will take place during May bank holiday weekend next year. We will communicate first with letters of interest to see if this trip will be viable.



Seneca Mastery Award

Congratulations to our 100% Seneca mastery certificate winners! Names were drawn out of a hat at the end of last half term and have been given a raffle ticket to win prizes!

All these students have worked extremely hard on their SENECA homework!



School closed to students Friday 12th June

You will hopefully have seen a letter earlier the week reminding you that school will be closed to students on Friday 12th June. This is for staff INSET day and students will return to school on Monday 15th June.

Finally,


Thank you for your continued support. I hope that you and your families enjoy the weekend.

Best wishes,



Kirstie Robinson.
Headteacher
Higham Lane North Academy.



Click to read! 

DATES and NOTES for your DIARY!

- 11th June – SLT Coffee & Communication for Families 4pm
- 12th June – Student Wellbeing Day – students do not attend school.
- 1st July – Summer Fayre
- 3rd July – Sports Day
- 10th July – Year 7 Rewards Day
- 14th – 16th July – French Trip
- 15th July – Wellbeing Rewards Afternoon
- 17th July – Rewards Assembly and last day of term



Higham Lane North Academy SEND Newsletter

WHERE 'EVERYONE IS INCLUDED AND EVERYONE BELONGS!'

At Higham Lane North Academy inclusion is a vital part of everything that we do.

We aim to provide all students including those with Special Educational Need and Disabilities a high-quality and ambitious education and wider school experience. We aim to breakdown barriers and provide opportunities so all students can thrive.

If you have any questions regarding SEND support, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Miss Rounce

As we approach the end of the summer term and students' first year at HLNA, I would like to encourage you and your children to share with us what you and they believe have been their successes this year. We are incredibly proud of our students and the progress they have made. When we met in the summer term last year, many of our students with additional needs were anxious and worried about secondary school and we now see confident students within school who are thriving. Thank you for your support and thank you to all your children's teachers for all their hard work in the classroom supporting your children to be the best version of themselves and to make positive progress in their learning.

SEND Cafe

Thank you to the parents who attended our SEND Café on Thursday. It was wonderful to speak with you all and for our key workers to spend some time talking with you also. We focused on transition support as we move towards to the end of year 7 and discussed strategies on how to support your child at home.

We look forward to welcoming you to further SEND Café's next academic year.

Supporting with transition and change!

This term we are speaking with students about being year 8 ready and what that looks like for them. We are spending the final weeks of term preparing students for the changes that will take place as they transition into year 8.

Students will be shown and will begin using the new queuing system for the dining hall, moving around the building incorporating the new classrooms being used from September. In addition to this, we are supporting and encouraging students to develop their independence as they move into year 8.

We would encourage students to discuss these changes with you at home to support them in managing the transitions as the school welcomes a new year group and students in September.

This week in The North Bridge

We have been making Mirror Posters as creative way to encourages students' positive beliefs about themselves. Students choose 3 positive beliefs or truths to write on the mirror card and then decorate as they like. They have taken their cards home to put somewhere they can see it every day and read the words while seeing themselves.

In our social group we are doing lots of activities around friendship and what it means to be a friend. Students have really embraced this work and are making fantastic progress.

We have implemented 2 new features in North Bridge this term. A Question Box for students to use if they have any questions or concerns about anything, but mostly around puberty and PHSE, that they might not feel comfortable speaking about in front of others.

This box will be checked regularly and queries answered. Most excitingly for the students', we have a 'Happy Moments' jar, where we encourage our students to share with us their achievements and things that have made them happy, however big or small.



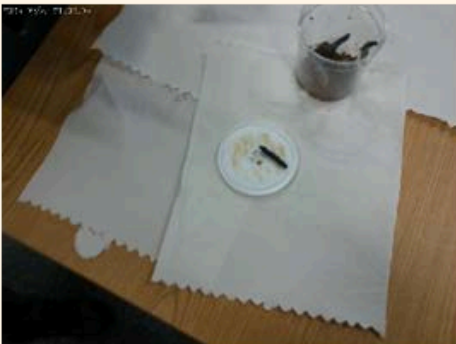
Miracle of Metamorphosis in Orion!



Over the last month, students have photographed, filmed and observed the process of caterpillar to butterfly. They were so very excited for the release day Tuesday 2nd June.



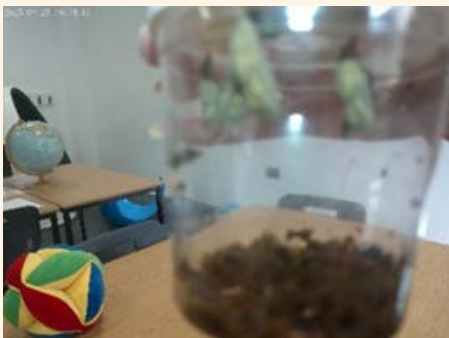
Caterpillars arrived on Friday 8th May, they were very tiny!



Watching them grow - they ate lots of food and grew very quickly.



Hanging from the cup - after 11 days they climbed to the top and attached to the underside of the lid.



Becoming chrysalides - it took 2 days for the chrysalides to harden.



WHERE 'EVERYONE IS INCLUDED AND EVERYONE BELONGS!'



Moving chrysalides into the butterfly Habitat. They rested over half term where an amazing transformation took place.



Five beautiful Painted Lady Butterflies waiting for us on Monday! Students fed them sugary water and a nectarine.



Setting them free! Release day Tuesday 2nd June. One student thinks he spotted one of our butterflies on his way home from school.



Our next activities:

- **Create a caterpillar to butterfly guide for the next Year 7.**
- **Report on what the butterflies will do next.**
- **Produce some Painted Lady Butterfly artwork**

Top tips for improving attendance!

School attendance is an important aspect of a child's educational journey, but for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), maintaining regular attendance can present challenges. Regular school attendance is essential for all children as it provides stability, continuity, and access to a broad curriculum. It also supports social development, allowing children to form friendships and develop important life skills.

- Working collaboratively- we encourage open communication between home and school, your child and their house champion to ensure we can address any concerns or worries your child might have regarding school.
- Establish a consistent routine - create consistent morning and bedtime routines to ensure your child gets enough sleep and are prepared for the school day
- Encourage positive behaviours- encourage your child to participate in school activities, co-curricular clubs and engage with their peers.

Where can I turn to for help outside of school?





Mental Health in Schools Team Tips For Wellness



Dimensions tool



Free online personalised self-care information & support for adults and children in Coventry & Warwickshire

Empathy

Empathy means *feeling with* someone, not just *feeling sorry for* them. It is one of the best ways to be a kind friend and a good person. Empathy is not just noticing that someone is happy, sad, or hurt—you're trying to understand their feelings **from their point of view** and responding with kindness.

Examples of when you could be empathetic:

A friend is nervous before a test.

You might say: *"I get nervous too. We've got this!"*

Someone is sitting alone at lunch.

You might think: *"I would feel sad if I were alone."*
So, you could invite them to sit with you.

Our tips for empathy:

1. **Pay attention** to how people look and sound. Are they happy, sad, or upset? Look for clues in their body language to find out how they might be feeling.
2. Read a book or watch a TV show. Pick a character in the book or show and imagine how that character might feel. Do you think all the characters feel the same? **Put yourself in their shoes!**
3. **Empathy drawing** – if you like to get creative, you could try drawing a picture of how someone else might feel in a certain situation (e.g., "a child who has lost their favourite toy", "a child who is starting a new school").
4. **Be kind with actions** - even little things help - like sharing, listening, or giving a hug.
5. **Include everyone** - invite others to play, join in, or sit with you. Notice if someone is standing alone, sitting on a bench, or watching others play.
6. **Kindness cards** – consider making cards or notes for family, friends or classmates who might need a boost!

In Coventry and Warwickshire, for any urgent mental health concerns, contact the RISE Crisis Helpline available 24/7, by calling NHS 111. Alternatively, call 999 or visit A&E in an emergency, for example if medical attention is required.

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays.

Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice